CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. (**Currently Amended**) A method for connecting a static VAR compensator having a plurality of parallel compensation components ~~(K1 – K3)~~ to an operating voltage ~~(U)~~, ~~in which~~**the method comprising the steps of:**

successively connecting the compensation components ~~(K1 – K3) are first successively connected~~ by a control unit ~~(CU)~~ **first** to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ via a series resistor ~~(R)~~ and ~~are~~ then ~~connected~~ to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ without a series resistor, ~~characterized in that~~ **wherein** an active component ~~(K1)~~ with at least one controllable reactive power element~~, e.g. with a TCR,~~ is used as the compensation component ~~(K1)~~ which is first connected to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ via the series resistor ~~(R)~~.

2. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ **A** connection method ~~as claimed in~~ **according to** claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ **wherein** the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ is an AC voltage with a fundamental frequency ~~(f)~~, and ~~in that~~**wherein** the active component ~~(K1)~~ is controlled by the control unit ~~(CU)~~ in such a way that a current ~~(I)~~ having the fundamental frequency ~~(f)~~ which flows across the series resistor ~~(R)~~ is essentially compensated.

3. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method **according to** ~~as claimed in~~ claim 1 ~~or 2~~, **wherein** ~~characterized in that~~ the compensation components ~~(K2, K3)~~ connected to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ via the series resistor ~~(R)~~ after the first compensation component ~~(K1)~~ are filter circuits ~~(K2, K3)~~.

4. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method **according to claim 1, wherein** ~~as claimed in one of the above claims, characterized in that~~, following connection of the compensation components ~~(K1 – K3)~~ to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ without a series resistor, the series resistor ~~(R)~~ is disconnected from the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ by the control unit ~~(CU)~~.

5. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method **according to claim 1, wherein**~~as claimed in one of the above claims, characterized in that~~ the connection of the compensation components ~~(K1 – K3)~~ to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ without a series resistor is performed simultaneously for all compensation components ~~(K1 – K3)~~.

6. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method **according to claim 1, wherein**~~as claimed in one of the above claims, characterized in that~~ a time offset ~~(δt2)~~ between the connection of two compensation components ~~(K1 – K3)~~ connected to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ immediately in succession via the series resistor ~~(R)~~ is between 50 and 300 ms~~, in particular between 80 and 200 ms, e.g. 100 to 150 ms~~.

7. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method **according to claim 1, whereinas ~~claimed in one of the above claims, characterized in that~~**, in order to connect the compensation components ~~(K1 ... K3)~~ to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~, a distribution bus ~~(DL)~~ upstream of the compensation components ~~(K1 ... K3)~~ is connected to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ via the series resistor ~~(R)~~ and the compensation components ~~(K1 ... K3)~~ are connected to the distribution bus ~~(DL)~~.

8. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method **according to ~~as claimed in~~** claim 7, **wherein ~~characterized in that~~** for the connection of the compensation components ~~(K1 ... K3)~~ to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ without a series resistor, the distribution bus ~~(DL)~~ is connected to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ without a series resistor.

9. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method **according to ~~as claimed in~~** claim 7 ~~or 8~~, **wherein ~~characterized in that~~** the first compensation component ~~(K1)~~ is connected to the distribution bus ~~(DL)~~ only after a time delay ~~(δt1)~~ following the connection of the distribution bus ~~(DL)~~ to the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ via the series resistor ~~(R)~~.

10. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method **according to ~~as claimed in~~** claim 9, **wherein ~~characterized in that~~** the time delay ~~(δt1)~~ is between 50 and 300 ms~~, in particular between 80 and 200 ms, e.g. 100 to 150 ms~~.

11. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method according to ~~as claimed in~~ claim 6 wherein the first compensation component is connected to the distribution bus only after a time delay following the connection of the distribution bus to the operating voltage via the series resistor~~and 9 or 6 and 10, characterized in that~~ and wherein the time delay ~~(δt1)~~ is the same as the time offset ~~(δt2)~~.

12. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method according to claim 1, wherein ~~as claimed in one of the above claims, characterized in that~~ the operating voltage ~~(U)~~ is a high voltage~~, in particular a medium voltage of~~ between 6 and 36 kV.

13. (**Currently Amended**) ~~The~~ A connection method according to claim 1, wherein ~~as claimed in one of the above claims, characterized in that~~ an operating voltage ~~(U)~~ having a plurality of phases is applied and in that the phases are connected simultaneously to the compensation components ~~(K1 – K3)~~ by the control unit ~~(CU)~~.

14. (**Currently Amended**) A control program stored on a data carrier ~~(DC)~~ being executable on a computer for implementing a connection method as claimed in ~~one of the above~~ claim 1~~s~~.

15. (**Currently Amended**) A control unit for a static VAR compensator ~~with which a connection~~ operable to execute a method as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 13 can be performed~~.

16. (**Currently Amended**) A static VAR compensator ~~for implementing a connection~~ operable for executing a method as claimed in ~~one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 13~~.

17. (**NEW**)A connection method according to claim 1, wherein the controllable reactive power element is a thyrisor controlled reactance (TCR).

18. (**NEW**)A connection method according to claim 1, wherein a time offset between the connection of two compensation components connected to the operating voltage immediately in succession via the series resistor is between 80 and 200 ms or between 100 to 150 ms.

19. (**NEW**)A connection method according to claim 9, wherein the time delay is between 80 and 200 ms or between 100 to 150 ms.